



MINUTES

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE (HRC)

City of Huntington Beach

Tuesday, May 9, 2023
6:45 pm Regular Meeting
City of Huntington Beach
2000 Main St., Huntington Beach,
CA 92648

A. WELCOMING REMARKS BY CHAIRPERSON RHONE

B. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rhone called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Rhone, Parrott, Kaston, Smith, Stuart, Velazquez, Chow, Keeley, Patel

Absent: None

Council Liaisons: Pat Burns (absent) and Gracey Van Der Mark (absent)

Staff Liaison: Yoon-Taylor

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker)

Members of the public were present, but there were no comments.

E. Approval of April 11, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes of the Human Relations Committee

MOTION: Moved by Keeley, seconded by Kaston, to approve the special meeting minutes dated, as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote, 9-0-0-0:

AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Keeley, Smith, Stuart, Chow, Velazquez, Kaston, Patel

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

F. Approval of April 11, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Human Relations Committee

MOTION: Moved by Parrott, seconded by Chow, to approve the regular meeting minutes dated, as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote, 9-0-0-0:

AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Keeley, Smith, Stuart, Chow, Velazquez, Kaston, Patel

G. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Hate Crimes/Incidents – Sgt. Munoz reported.
 - a) There was one hate incident and one hate crime.
 - b) Hate Incident: On 4/24/2023, around 1:58 pm.
 - Officers responded to 5152 Stallion Circle in reference to Anti-Semitic flyers.
 - The reporting party said he found a flyer in his front yard and in the surrounding neighborhood.



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- The person leaving the flyers was caught on video; however, the video was of very poor quality and a description was not obtained from it.
 - c) Hate Crime (Assault with a deadly weapon): On 04/27/2023, around 6:11 pm.
 - The victims, a male Hispanic 46 years old and his 13-year-old son stopped and shopped at the 7-11 at the corner of Beach and Talbert.
 - The male Hispanic spoke to the clerk in Spanish and the customer in front of him (male, white, 30-40 years old) became angry and said something in English with an angry tone of voice. He then walked to the parking lot, waited for the victims to get in their car and blocked them with his truck.
 - The victim was scared and was able to drive his car back and forward until he was able to drive around the truck. The victim exited onto Talbert and the suspect followed. The victim stopped to take a picture of the truck and the suspect stopped and came out of the truck with a baseball bat in his hand.
 - He threatened to hit the victim with the bat and told them to go back to Santa Ana. The suspect was arrested for DUI, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, and Hate Crime.
 - d) Staff Liaison Yoon-Taylor inquired about the residential location of the suspect and the victim, noting that our council liaisons have asked for this information in previous meetings.
 - e) Sgt. Munoz responded that for legal and privacy reasons they do not disclose the residential locations of victims but the suspect who was arrested for a hate crime is a Huntington Beach resident.
 - f) Chair Rhone made a note that for the past three or four meetings there have been consistent reports of hate crimes and hate incidents which feels that there is an uptick in hate crimes and hate incidents, which is a concern.
 - g) HRC Donation Balance: Yoon-Taylor, Staff Liaison reported the current fund balance as \$3,221.80. A \$35 donation was received for Open House but has not been updated to the balance yet.
 - h) HB Reads – Member Keeley reported there is a new contact as President, Fred Provencher, is taking a step back. Member Keeley reports this is usually a slower time for HB Reads and there was nothing additional to report.
 - i) HB Coordinating Council – Member Stuart reported:
 - The Homeless Task Force was there and reported with Be Well HB along with Rev. Pike.
 - He states that the city is doing a lot to help the homeless and the shelter is now at 95% capacity and that all occupants are local to Huntington Beach.
 - Stuart further reported the Sand Dollars of HB are hosting a fundraiser pageant and flower planting event on 5/24/23.
 - Every 3rd Saturday from 9am-12pm at the Wetlands Conservancy John



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Villa invited everyone to come to volunteer.

- j) Youth Ambassador &Volunteers Program: No updates reported.
- k) Greater HB Interfaith Council (GHBIC): Member Velazquez reported:
 - Lt. Brian Smith of the Homeless Task Force did a presentation and provided information about the Be Well HB program and the Navigation Center.
 - Maha Rahaf was the spotlight speaker and she shared about her faith.
 - The Community Volunteer Service Day was a huge success.
 - The National Day of Prayer and Breakfast was at First Christian Church and the Keynote Speaker was from Hoag Hospital on 5/4.

H. DEVELOPMENT DYNAMICS

Chair Rhone talked about the history and significance of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. She further shared that AAPI-themed films from previous Cultural Cinema Showcase filmmakers were presented to HBTv and will be screened throughout the month.

I. SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS – None for this month

J. NEW BUSINESS

- Nominations and Elections – Nominations were taken from the floor for Vice Chair candidates.
 - Member Parrott nominated Member Chow; Member Keeley seconded.
 - Member Chow accepted the nomination.
 - Through an anonymous voting process, with votes counted by Staff Liaison Yoon-Taylor, Member Chow was unanimously elected as the new Vice Chair. Liaison Yoon-Taylor clarified that this term would be the remaining term until next election, since she is stepping in to replace former Vice Chair Parrott.
- The Ad Hoc List was reviewed and discussed and will be filed. Member Kaston was added to the HB Listens ad hoc. Member Chow was added to the Ralph Bauer Youth Voices ad hoc.
- Discuss and Approve Communications Assistant:
 - Rhone led the group in conversation about the proposed chair-appointed Communications Assistant position, noting that Member Velazquez and Member Kaston expressed interest. The communications assistant will assist with building out a mailing list, communicating with the City's Office of Communications department, etc.



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MOTION: Moved by Chow, seconded by Keeley, to approve the Communications Assistant chair-appointed position.

The motion carried by the following vote, 9-0-0-0:

AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Keeley, Smith, Stuart, Chow, Velazquez, Kaston, Patel

- Discuss Next Steps for Resource Toolkit Assembly & Packaging:
 - Rhone led the group in conversation about this item and noted that this was already approved by the previous council but needs to be implemented.
 - Staff Liaison Yoon-Taylor and Members offered suggestions on how to move forward. Member Patel suggested QR codes as an option. Staff Liaison Yoon-Taylor suggested that the documents should be more user-friendly and the resources, phone numbers, and information should be verified.
 - Once completed, the information will be available to everyone.
- Discuss and Approve 4th of July Budget:
 - Member Stuart and the Communications ad hoc led the group in conversation about the proposed expenses for the 4th of July.
 - Velazquez suggested larger flags for the children. Others suggested bubble blowers as a possible item.
 - Staff Liaison Yoon-Taylor suggested additional signage to highlight the mission of the committee and for more visibility.
 - Rhone suggested \$1,000 be allocated since the group wanted to expand the number of participants and the group would need a larger vehicle. A double-decker bus or open-air vehicle was suggested. Stuart offered to attend the VW expo event to inquire about vehicles.

MOTION: Moved by Keeley, seconded by Patel, to approve the 4th of July budget

The motion carried by the following vote, 9-0-0-0:

AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Smith, Keeley, Stuart, Chow, Velazquez, Kaston, Patel

- Review, Discuss and Approve Open House Thank You Cards:
 - Rhone led the group in conversation about the proposed card.
 - Revisions were suggested by members.

MOTION: Moved by Parrott, seconded by Chow, to approve the Open House Thank You cards with revisions.

The motion carried by the following vote, 9-0-0-0:

AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Keeley, Smith, Stuart, Chow, Velazquez, Kaston, Patel



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- Discuss and Approve Cultural Cinema Showcase Changes:
 - Rhone led the group in conversation to approve changes to the 2023-2024 season which includes a name change for the event, accepting scripts to coincide with the HRC's theme, and approaching it as a fundraiser.
 - Members offered suggestions and feedback on how to move forward. Chair Rhone suggested that additional conversations take place in the future regarding the organizational structure of the event moving forward.

MOTION: Moved by Keeley, seconded by Chow, to approve the name change to Huntington Beach Cultural Film Festival, accept scripts and look at it as a fundraiser.

The motion carried by the following vote, 9-0-0-0:

AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Smith, Keeley, Stuart, Chow, Velazquez, Kaston, Patel

- Discuss Navigation Tour and Programming Interest: Yoon-Taylor reported that Lt. Brian Smith, acting director of homelessness and behavioral health welcomes the HRC to participate in a tour of the facility to assess needs in an effort to offer support programs or life skill workshops.
 - No background checks are required if Lt. Smith accompanies the group. Preferred times for a visit are weekday mornings or Sunday afternoons. Dinnertime would be off limit.
 - Rhone inquired about the number of HRC members allowed to visit. The following five (5) members expressed interest in attending: Rhone, Keeley, Stuart, Chow, and Velazquez.
- Discuss HB Listens Dialogue Circle for June: This item was pulled and will be addressed at the next meeting during the regular HB Listens ad hoc reporting.
- Discuss Special Guests for June Meeting:
 - Rhone requested vacation dates, graduation dates, and/or exception dates to ensure there would be a quorum for the June meeting to welcome the special guests. Two members expressed that they would be on vacation. At this time, it appears that the group will have a quorum.
 - Some members offered questions that they wanted to send to the speakers ahead of the meeting to be answered during the session.
- Review, Discuss and Approve New Annual Report Template:
 - Rhone led a discussion about the new layout and template.
 - Members expressed that they liked the format and felt it would be a nice transition from Canva to Microsoft Word.

MOTION: Moved by Chow, seconded by Keeley, to approve the new annual report template.



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AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Smith, Keeley, Stuart, Chow, Velazquez, Kaston, Patel

- Review, Discuss and Approve Fundraising Ideas:
 - Members discussed previously submitted fundraising ideas and the way that donations are received.
 - Staff Liaison advised that the HRC has some special allowances to engage in cost recovery efforts for events rather than fundraising.
 - After much conversation and discussion, this item was pulled from the agenda and will be revisited next month framed in the context of cost recovery for events.
- Discuss HBHS Bridges Updates: No new updates.
- Discuss and Approve Education Night Special Meeting: Item pulled for next meeting.

K. REVIEW OF AD HOC COMMITTEES, PROGRAMS AND PROJECT UPDATES

The following reports and updates were provided:

1. The Ralph Bauer Youth Voices Essay & Art Contest – Keeley reporting:
 - Charlene Bauer is donating \$2400 for all of the top categorical prizes.
 - The event will take place in May or June of 2024
 - The event will do a soft launch in August for teachers in hopes they will plan educational syllabus components for the school year to coincide with event theme.
 - HRC normally does calendar forecasting for the next year in October. To accommodate the needs of the committee, the forecasting meeting will take place in August 2023.
 - Member Keeley also requested that we meet with the superintendent to inform them of events that we are offering to ensure they have the information six months ahead of time.
2. Community Engagement – Rhone reporting:
 - Member Velazquez and Chair Rhone will work together on a community initiative and engagement to present at the next meeting.
3. HB Cultural Film Festival – Kaston reporting:
 - Currently 610 films have been submitted for the main event in September. 12 disqualifications. 19 withdrawals. 328 films have been rejected. 79% have been



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rated and reviewed. 341 domestic films and 269 International films were received.

4. HB Listens – Vice Chair Chow reporting:
 - HB Listens is in the exploratory phase of planning and preparing a new dialogue circle series.
5. Updating Calendar Template – Rhone requested that Member Kaston create a new template/format for the calendar.

L. STAFF COMMENTS/DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION

None reported.

M. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- Member Keeley encouraged everyone to participate in the Senior Center events if they are eligible to do so.
- Member Stuart shared that he spoke with Kelly Miller of Visit HB, and he is preparing a demographics/stat sheet to share of Air Show participants.
- Member Velazquez mentioned that she attended the Robert Mayer Leadership Academy as a guest of Rachel Ramirez and talked about our committee and what we do.
- Chairperson Comments:
 - Chair Rhone reported that she received information from OCHR on their “Get Help OC” Initiative which provides resources and assistance for people impacted by bias-motivated hate incidents or crimes.
 - Chair Rhone provided follow-up to the most recent council liaison meeting with Mayor Pro Tem Van Der Mark and Council Member Burns. It was a productive meeting with both council liaisons Van Der Mark and Burns sharing that safety is their number one concern for the city. Rhone stated that the HRC will plan events to support and highlight this issue.
 - Chair Rhone shared that she received phone calls from business leaders who are being targeted and intimidated as LGBTQ community members.
 - They have previously called 9-1-1 for assistance in the past. Rhone offered to connect them with support services and resources, however, they expressed concern of retaliation and further targeting by reporting and coming forward.
 - Chair Rhone encouraged all members to do their best to help anyone impacted by hate to report their incidents to local law enforcement or OCHR or 2-1-1 for proper tracking and reporting.
 - Additionally, she believes having dialogue or conversation around this issue is imperative.

N. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

None



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ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Parrott, seconded by Keeley, to adjourn at 9:25 pm.

The motion carried by the following vote, 9-0-0-0:

AYES: Rhone, Parrott, Smith, Stuart, Patel, Chow, Kaston Velazquez, Keeley

The next meeting of the HRC is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13th, at 6:45 pm at the Civic Center, Lower-Level Room B7, Huntington Beach, California.

Submitted by Secretary Smith, HB Human Relations Committee.

Reviewed by Chair Rhone, HB Human Relations Committee

Approved by the Human Relations Committee on JULY 11, 2023.